

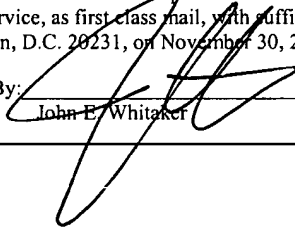


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED  
FEB 05 2002  
Group 2100

Applicant: Chua et al. Examiner: Not Assigned  
Serial No.: 09/927,096 Group Art Unit: 2152  
Filed: August 9, 2001 Docket: 50037.05USU1  
Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SEARCHING MULTIPLE DISPARATE  
SEARCH ENGINES

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 30, 2001.

By:   
John E. Whitaker

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

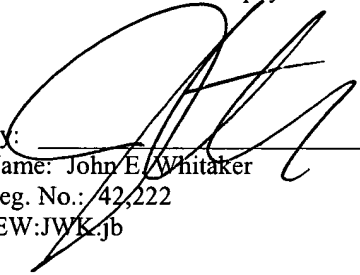
Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 19 References
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
206.342.6200

By:   
Name: John E. Whitaker  
Reg. No.: 42,222  
JEW:JWK:jb





IN 09/927,096

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Chua et al.	Examiner:	Not Assigned
Serial No.:	09/927,096	Group Art Unit:	2152
Filed:	August 9, 2001	Docket No.:	50037.05USU1
Title:	SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SEARCHING MULTIPLE DISPARATE SEARCH ENGINES		

RECEIVED  
FEB 05 2002  
Group 2100

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on November 30, 2001.

By

John E. Whitaker

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the references are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.


Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.


Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.



Respectfully submitted,

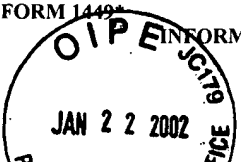
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

  
John E. Whitaker  
Reg. No. 42,222  
JEW:JWK:jb

<b>FORM 1449*</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 50037.05USU1	Application Number: 09/927,096
	Applicant: Chua et al.	
	Filing Date: August 9, 2001	Group Art Unit: 2152

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
		"SqURL Searches Multiple Search Engines;" <i>Online Magazine</i> 20:2 (Mar. 1996), p. 77.					
		Haskin, D., "The Smart Web Searcher - EchoSearch Reaches Across Multiple Search Engines to Find What You're Look For;" <i>PC Magazine</i> 15:18 (Oct. 1996), p. 69.					
		Wang Baldonado, M., "Searching, Browsing, and Metasearching with Sense Maker;" <i>Web Techniques</i> 2:5 (May 1997), pp. 42 - 47.					
		Klingler, S., "Search the Internet the Easy Way - WebCompass Both Organizes and Prioritizes Results from Multiple Search Engines;" <i>LAN Times</i> 14:10 (May 1997), p. 56.					
		Dreilinger, D. et al., "Experiences with Selecting Search Engines Using Metasearch;" <i>ACM Transactions on Information Systems</i> 15:3 (July 1997), pp. 195 - 222.					
		Hibbard, J., "WebSleuth Queries Multiple Engines and Linguistically Analyzes the Results;" <i>Information Week</i> , July 7, 1997, p. 65.					
		"JWSG Offers \$5 Easy To Use Personal Search Assistant: WebShades; The Fast and Lightweight Mini-window Search Tool, Scans Multiple Search Engines With Optional In-page html Searching;" <i>NewsWire</i> , August 6, 1997.					
		"American Systems Has Released Internet EZ Search v. 2.0, Which Queries 49 Major Web Search Engines At Once;" <i>Information Week</i> , October 20, 1997, p. 174.					
		Edwards, M., "Magnifi's Search Engine Handles Multiple File Types;" <i>InfoWorld</i> 20:7, February 16, 1998, p. 94.					
		Benitez, A. et al., "Using Relevance Feedback in Content-Based Image Metasearch;" <i>IEEE Internet Computing</i> 2:4 (July-Aug. 1998), pp. 59 - 69.					
		Fan, Y. et al., "Adaptive Agents for Information Gathering from Multiple, Distributed Information Sources;" <i>Tech Rep -American Association of Artificial Intelligence</i> 99:03 (Mar. 1999), pp. 40 - 46.					
		Hannappel, P. et al., "MSEEC - A Multi Search Engine With Multiple Clustering;" <i>Managing IT Resources in Organizations</i> (May 1999), pp. 304 - 312.					
		Glover, E. et al., "Architecture of a Metasearch Engine that Supports User Information Needs;" <i>CIKM 8<sup>th</sup> International Conference</i> (Nov. 1999), pp. 210 - 216.					

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

FORM 1449*  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b>  <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 50037.05USU1	Application Number: 09/927,096
	Applicant: Chua et al.	
	Filing Date: August 9, 2001	Group Art Unit: 2152

	Shu, B. et al., "A Neural Network-Based Intelligent Metasearch Engine;" <i>Information Sciences</i> 120 (Nov. 1999), pp. 1 –11.
	Taehee, K. et al., "Integration of Multiple Heterogeneous Databases Using a Client-Side Meta Search Agent;" <i>IAT 1<sup>st</sup> Asia-Pacific Conference</i> (Dec. 1999), pp. 234 –243.
	Aslam, J. et al., "Bayes Optimal Metasearch: A Probabilistic Model for Combining the Results of Multiple Retrieval Systems;" <i>SIGIR Forum</i> 34 (2000), pp. 379 –381.
	Wang, W. et al., "Concept Hierarchy Based Text Database Categorization in a Metasearch Engine Environment;" <i>IEEE Proceedings of the International Conference on Web Information Systems Engineering</i> (June 2000), pp. 283 –290.
	Mishra, R. et al., "KhojYantra: An Integrated MetaSearch Engine with Classification, Clustering and Ranking;" <i>IEEE International Database Engineering and Application Symposium</i> (Sept. 2000), pp. 122 –133.
	Yu, C. et al., "Efficient and Effective Metasearch for Text Databases Incorporating Linkages among Documents;" <i>SIGMOD Record</i> 30:2 (June 2001), pp. 187 – 198.

RECEIVED



EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	